

Walt Disney World For Teens

Can teens really have fun at a place like *Walt Disney World*® Resort? Absolutely! Actually, be prepared to have the time of your life. It's a safe place to assert some independence from your parents, a place you'll never forget. Here are some of the best experiences for teens at "The Most Magical Place on Earth":

Have a Splashing Good Time at Disney's Water Parks

For a blast of a time, head to one of Disney's two water parks. *Disney's Blizzard Beach* Water Park has a melting alpine resort theme where chairlifts carry swimmers instead of skiers. It's a place for daredevils to challenge wild, rushing water and death-defying slides including the Summit Plummet, a 120-foot slide reaching speeds of 60 miles per hour. Those a bit less adventuresome will love *Disney's Typhoon Lagoon* Water Park, a tropical fantasyland offering a wave pool with the tallest simulated waves in the world as well as a chance to snorkel among tropical fish, leopard and nurse sharks, and picturesque coral at Shark Reef.

Live it Up at Downtown Disney

After the parks close hop a bus from your Disney resort for a night on the town at *Downtown Disney*® Area. Highlights include *DisneyQuest*® Indoor Interactive Theme Park with five floors of interactive games, a 24-screen *AMC Theater*, a *Cirque du Soleil* show, and over scads of shops and restaurants. Favorite dining choices for the younger crowd are *Planet Hollywood* and *Rainforest Café*. And definitely consider *Crossroads at House of Blues* where teens are allowed to attend some of the almost daily concerts in their live music venue next-door.

Cool Off at One of Disney's Resort Pools

When your parents are wondering which resort to book for your Disney vacation be sure and put your two cents in and steer them toward one with a great pool. Disney's very best uniquely themed pools include *Disney's Yacht and Beach Club's* Stormalong Bay, a 3-acre mini-water park, the *Swan and Dolphin's* lush, grotto-style lagoon pool, the boulder-strewn wonderland at *Disney's Wilderness Lodge* with its very own erupting geyser, and the Volcano Pool at *Disney's Polynesian Resort* with its luxuriant waterfall, smoking peak, and perfect views of Cinderella Castle.

Plan For Watersport Fun

Disney's Contemporary Resort is the place for water-ski, parasail, wakeboard, kneeboard, and jet-ski action under the guidance of a professional instructor. There's nothing better than a bird's-eye-view of the *Magic Kingdom*® as you parasail high above the Seven Seas Lagoon. And the action down below on Bay Lake is a blast! For reservations call 407-WDW-PLAY up to 180 days in advance, and be sure to bring a parent along to sign a waiver to participate if you're under age 18.

Pilot Your Own Boat

What could be more fun than renting a Sea Raycer, a 2-seater mini-power boat perfect for zipping around Disney's waterways and lakes. It's a great pastime for teens with a

valid driver's license (those under 18 must bring along a parent to sign a waiver). You'll get the most bang for your buck at one of the resorts near the *Magic Kingdom* (the Contemporary, Polynesian, Grand Floridian, or Wilderness Lodge) where you'll find miles of recreation on the Seven Seas Lagoon and Bay Lake.

Cara Goldsbury is the author of *The Luxury Guide to Disney Vacations* and *The Luxury Guide to Walt Disney World Resort*. She is Chief Executive Concierge at [Glass Slipper Concierge®](#) and has appeared as a leading Disney expert on two Travel Channel specials, *Disney Splurge!* and *Disney Royalty*. She has also been cited numerous times in national news articles, in such notable publications as *Forbes Traveler*, as an expert on the *Walt Disney World®* Resort. Visit Cara at wdwLuxuryGuide.com.